



6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEON VALLEY TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting of the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board (TAB) at 6:00 PM, on Thursday, December 17, 2015, in the Leon Valley Conference Center, at 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas.

I. Poll for Attendance and Determination of a Quorum.

- Staff Liaison: Elizabeth Carol (Present)
- TAB Forester: Mark Kroeze, Alamo Region Urban Forester (Present)
- Members Present: Irene Baldrige, Thomas Benavides, Denise Berger, Melinda Dawson, Mary Key, Diana Sarfin, and Rich Sarfin
- Guest: Roger Christensen (Chairman of the Leon Valley Park Commission)

II. Approval of Minutes - October 19, 2015.

- Minutes were approved as written.

III. Discussion/recap Arbor Day 2015

- A total of three hundred and fifty trees were adopted-out. Two hundred and eighty went to residential homes and seventy went to the City of Leon Valley (planted at Silo Park by Public Service).
- Lessons learned/comments:
 - An agenda of the event should be posted at various locations to eliminate confusion.
 - Holding Arbor Day in conjunction with the Leon Valley Library Halloween Party and the Northwest Seniors Trash & Treasure Sale allowed for more people to stop by our event helping us to adopt-out a larger number of trees.
 - Security needs to be improved. There were some people getting behind the tables amongst the volunteers and the trees. It would be best to cordon-off these areas.
 - The tables should be organized like in prior years to help out the flow.
 - A stage for the speakers would have been helpful.
 - Background music could add more to the event.
- Next Arbor Day will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2016.

IV. Discussion on Tree City USA and Tree City Growth Award Application.

- Ms. Carol completed both the Tree City USA and Tree City Growth Award applications which will be submitted by December 31, 2015.
 - TAB members acknowledged Ms. Carol's diligence and hard work that went into these applications.

V. Leon Valley Wildfire Protection Plan.

- Ms. Carol provided a hard copy of the LV Wildfire Protection Plan for TAB members to review for next meeting. She will resend a softcopy as well.
- This topic will be re-scheduled for next month's meeting.

VI. Recap of the meeting with the Park Commission on December 8, 2015.

- Ms. Carol and Mr. Benavides provided a draft copy of the "Tree" section to be added to the "Environment Component" chapter of the Leon Valley Master Plan to the Park Commission. Its goals, objectives, and strategies still need to be finalized by the TAB before it is sent to City Council for approval.
- The following information was also provided to the commission:
 - TAB goal is to plant 10,000 trees by 2020.
 - TAB is ready to work with the Park Commission in planting trees in the zones already identified by the Park Commission during their meeting on May 16, 2015.
 - TAB Forester (Mark Kroeze, Alamo Region Urban Forester) is ready to evaluate zones for planting.
- Mr. Christensen, Chairman of the Leon Valley Park Commission, attended our meeting this evening to address the TAB. His input is as follows:

- The Park Commission would like to see a "planting plan" detailing; site preparation, how trees and brush will be removed to include disposition (i.e., remove, stack, or burn), type of irrigation to be used, species of trees to be planted, types of plantings to include under-story, individual, and groves, how the San Antonio Water System easement and creek channel will handled/protected, and expense/budget requirements.
- The natural area is officially a park. It is the Huebner-Onion Natural Area Park (adjacent to Raymond Rimkus Park).
- Parks to be developed at this time include Silo Park, Shadow Mist Park, and the LC-17 Park (un-named at this time).

VII. Discussion and Planning Earth Wise Living.

- Earth Wise Living Day will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2016.
- Ms. Carol will contact CPS Energy to inquire on their sponsorship of the Tree Adoption at Earth Wise.

VIII. Future Agenda Items.

- **How to improve tree focus.**
 - To be discussed at the next TAB meeting.
- **Website updates.**
 - To be discussed at the next TAB meeting.
- **Neighborwood program.**
 - This topic will be revisited in 2016.
- **Strategic Tree planting goals.**
 - To be discussed at the next TAB meeting.
- **Other Topics.**
 - TAB members discussed the development of a "General Tree Plan" that can be used as a template. Members will begin working on an outline for the next meeting. Among other attributes, it will include the following:
 - Strategy.
 - Flexibility.
 - Diversity.
 - Identification of native tree species suited for Leon Valley.

IX. Adjourn.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.
- The next meeting of the TAB is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2016, at 6:00 PM, at the Leon Valley Conference Center.


Chairperson